



Junction City Branch

National Association For The Advancement Of Colored People

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May 30, 2002

Ruby V. Stevens- President

Dear Governor Graves:

I am writing on the behalf of the African American Citizens of the 2nd Congressional District who are bonded by common political conditions and who need the political relationship that they have had historically in the 2nd District. The African American political voice has not always been used to its fullest potential, but yet that muted voice still remains the political fertile ground on which American democracy is tested and expanded. In Kansas this voice must still be nurtured and not diluted.

Keeping the cities of Junction City, Manhattan, Topeka and Atchinson in the same District would demonstrate a compassionate understanding of minority citizens who see their dream for America and for Kansas as still being a "dream deferred." Keeping these cities united would also demonstrate a concerned understanding of the political complications with which minorities must contend when their views of American communality are not of political importance to the majority. In spite of this contention, the highest tribute to the measurement of good government is how well it provides the legal framework that will promote harmony among its citizens.

Governor Graves, I urge you in your final decision on the new redistricting of Kansas to consider the political needs of all of the citizens of Kansas; but I urge you to especially to consider the needs of those who have most to lose by the present plan.

Sincerely,

Ruby Stevens, President
Junction City NAACP Branch

